

CLAIMS

1. An insert (8) intended to cooperate in a plate (1), especially made of a brittle material of the glass type, so as to allow, in cooperation with a connecting element (19), said plate (1) to be mounted on a support, characterized in that it is designed to be received or formed *in situ* in a hole (2) having retaining walls of curved profile, said hole being made in one face of the plate (1), said insert (8) being obtained from at least one removable component made of a deformable material.
2. The insert as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the hole (2) is bounded by a side wall (5) of concave profile, the concavity being turned toward the inside.
3. The insert as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the hole (2) is a blind hole or a through-hole.
4. The insert as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the hole (2) has a circular or oblong cross section.
5. The insert as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that it is based on a cup-shaped element intended to be introduced into the corresponding hole (2) in the plate (1), said cup having radial slots (18) made in its side wall, thus forming petals that can bend elastically, or even plastically, inward so as to allow said element to be fitted into the corresponding hole (2) in the plate (1), the internal surface of the side wall of the cuplike element being designed to cooperate with the element (19) for connecting the glass plate (1) to the support.

6. The insert as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the cuplike element is of circular shape.
- 5 7. The insert as claimed in either of claims 5 and 6, characterized in that the cuplike element has three to five slots (18).
8. The insert as claimed in one of claims 3 to 7, characterized in that the element has a curved, optionally pierced, bottom.
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9. The insert as claimed in one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the cooperation between the connecting element (19) and the insert (8) is suitable for self-locking said insert (8) within the hole (2).
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10. The insert as claimed in one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that a wetting agent for improving the surface appearance is interposed at the interface between the side wall (5) of the hole (2) and the insert (8).
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11. A plate, especially made of a brittle material of the glass type, having on at least one of its surfaces a hole (2) intended to receive at least one insert (8) as defined in one of claims 1 to 10.
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12. The plate as claimed in claim 11, equipped with its insert or inserts (8).
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13. The glass plate as claimed in claim 12, the or each insert (8) of which has received a connecting element (19) suitable for cooperating with a support.
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14. The plate as claimed in one of claims 11 to 13, characterized in that the glass is toughened,

tempered, annealed or mechanically reinforced glass.

- 5 15. A mounted assembly or assembly to be mounted, comprising at least one plate (1) as defined in one of claims 11 to 14.
- 10 16. The assembly as claimed in claim 15, characterized in that it consists of a wall cladding element, an interior furnishing, a partition or piece of furniture.
- 15 17. A heating means comprising a plate (1) as defined in one of claims 11 to 16, it being possible for said plate (1) to be provided with conducting elements, for example screen-printed elements, and with current leads.
- 20 18. A process for manufacturing a plate (1) suitable for being mounted on a support so as to constitute a mounted assembly, such as a heating means, characterized in that the surface of the plate, especially one made of a brittle material of the glass type (1) that has not undergone a heat treatment, is machined so as to make at least one hole (2) at the place of the fastening points, each forementioned hole (2) being shaped so as to allow an insert (8) as defined in one of claims 1 to 12 to be introduced and retained, in that a heat treatment is then carried out on said plate (1), and in that an insert (8) of complementary shape as defined in one of claims 1 to 10 is placed or formed *in situ* in each of the holes (2).
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